and their achievement makes me very proud to lead the BP team.

The answer came through efficiency . . . and technology, and through better management of the energy we use ourselves. At the Texas City refinery alone that saved $5 million and 300,000 tonnes of CO_2 equivalent. It came through a reduction in the amount of energy we need to use. And by applying simple efficiency—stopping leaks. There are hundreds of examples.

In aggregate the net effect of all those actions is that we've met the target, seven years ahead of schedule. And we've met it at no net economic cost—because the savings from reduced energy inputs and increased efficiency have outweighed all the expenditure involved.

That's a particularly noteworthy point, a positive surprise—because it begins to answer the fears expressed by those who believed that the costs of taking precautionary action would be huge and unsustainable.

In the process of reaching that objective we've learned a great deal. We can now measure our emissions with much more precision than we could five years ago. We now have a verified inventory of emissions. That means we can track reductions in a way which simply wasn't possible before. We've learned a great deal about trading greenhouse gas emissions—through establishing the first global internal trading system which enabled us to apply the right resources in the right places and to reduce the costs involved. And we've learned a great deal about the potential to resolve the challenge of climate change through technology.

The quality of the products we sell has improved—with the development of cleaner fuels. That not only improves air quality in our cities, it also enables us to work with the auto manufacturers to produce significantly more efficient engines.

Taken together, those steps mean that we've not only reduced our own emissions but we've also reduced the carbon content of the energy products we supply to the world. So it is a good start. But it's not a place to stop.

There is no single solution . . . but there are many ways forward. What we and others have done show that there are rich and wide-ranging possibilities.

The compelling conclusion from the scientific work is that the ultimate objective must be to achieve stabilization—a maximum level of carbon dioxide in the atmosphere which is below the level of risk.

If stabilization is the objective, what is the appropriate contribution of an individual company? Clearly, we can't do everything. We supply just 1.5 per cent of the world's energy and around three per cent of the world's oil and gas.

But we play our part and take a lead. We can use our skills and technology and business process to set our own internal target in the context of the goal of stabilization, with a clear time scale over the next decade; in short to hold the emissions from our operations at 10% below 1990 levels, through 2012, with approximately half of that coming from improvements in internal energy efficiency, and half from the use of market mechanisms, generating carbon credits.

That is our next objective and our new commitment.

The scale of the challenge is clear. We're a growing business, and we want to create value for our shareholders by increasing our share of the world energy market over the next decade. We aim to continue to grow our production of oil and gas by more than five per cent per annum until 2005, and to keep growing beyond that.

We'll also be increasing the volume of refined products we produce. Precise predictions are impossible but we are moving to the point where we could be producing twice our current output. So we have to have the means to manage the possible volumes of CO_2 which that growth implies.

How then can we contribute to the objective of stabilisation? There are two principal ways. First, through efficiency—improving the productivity of the energy we use, and doing everything we can internally to reduce our emissions per unit of production.

By applying existing knowledge across the span of our operations, and selective new capital investment in areas such as cogeneration, we believe we can achieve a 10 to 15 per cent improvement in the efficiency of our energy use. That will include continued work to avoid leaks. In total we believe we can deliver around half the necessary reductions needed to sustain our internal emissions at current levels.

Secondly we have to continue to reduce the carbon content of the products we produce and sell. We'll continue to shift the balance of our business in favour of lower carbon energy sources and in particular natural gas. We'll also continue the development of key markets for fuels with a lower carbon content such as Compressed Natural Gas and Liquefied Petroleum Gas.

We'll offer refined products that are designed to enable improved efficiency, or greater emissions reductions. We'll continue to improve the quality of our refined products. Within the next three years 50 per cent of sales worldwide will be of clean fuels, including zero sulphur fuels, which we hope will catalyze the development of more efficient engines. We're working with engine manufacturers. We'll continue to develop our solar business which will grow by 40 per cent this year and which already has a 17 per cent world market share. And we'll explore other potential renewable sources of supply, and test the viability of other potential energy sources such as hydrogen.

At the same time we'll maintain the leadership we've secured over the last five years in carbon capture and geologic storage, a technology that may have applications across industry sectors.

Our growth will be cleaner than the average, as it has been over the last decade, and that means we will have earned the right to grow, because by taking action we've ensured that our growth is sustainable in every sense.

Of course, the offset I mentioned depends on the development of a system of credits which recognizes that emissions can be reduced in many different ways and which incentivises innovation and new thinking. That system of credits has not yet been established. The market mechanisms are not yet in place. But these are early days.

We, and others, have learned a great deal about the technology of trading emissions over the last five years. But to reach its full potential, and to go beyond the boundaries of individual companies, trading requires real incentives which are not yet in place. Nevertheless, I feel more confident now than I did in 1997 that such systems will eventually be established, and as they are developed we're determined to maintain our leadership position.

The acceptance of the risk and of the potential for progress is reflected in all the actions being taken by Governments around the world: in China—a shift from coal to natural gas, and an extensive national programme of investment in environmental protection; in the UK—the development of a creative and constructive trading system; and in the US, the important statement about reducing carbon intensity by President Bush four weeks ago builds on previous statements on stabilisation and opens new possibilities based on the fundamental American belief in technology—a belief founded on decades of achievement here in Stanford and in other great universities.

The differences of approach are to me a source of optimism—because they reflect reality. The most effective forms of action do vary from one country to another, just as they vary from one company to another. That creative diversity of response, combined with the common acceptance of the problem, means that a recognition of different advances in a common form through credits is more likely than it has been before.

Our aspiration then is to sustain the reduction in emissions we've made. And by doing that to contribute to the world's long term goal of stabilization. That is the route to creating a sustainable, profitable business. We can't do it alone. We need the help of partners. We need the help of the academic. And we need the help of Governments.

IN RECOGNITION OF 90TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE GIRL SCOUTS

HON. MIKE ROGERS

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 9, 2002

Mr. ROGERS of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, today I rise in support and recognition of the 90th Anniversary of the Girl Scouts of the United States of America. Founded on the belief that all young women should be given the opportunity to develop physically, mentally and spiritually, Girl Scouts of the U.S.A. empowers girls to develop to their full potential.

The largest organization for girls in the world, Girl Scouting has a membership of 3.8 million. By establishing programs that are tailored to the needs and interests of girls, the Girl Scouts provides opportunities to develop strong values and life skills in our young women. The scouting experience allows American girls to take on responsibility, think creatively and act with integrity—elements essential to cultivating good citizenship.

The Girl Scouts dedication to the positive development of girls and young women is an essential contribution to American society. I am confidant that the hard work and dedication of the Girl Scouts, which has been an integral component of the last 90 years of our nation's history, will continue well into the future. I commend the Girl Scouts of the United States of America for their commitment to assisting girls and young women to grow strong in mind, body, and spirit and call on my colleagues to do likewise.

AFGHAN BACK TO SCHOOL DAY MARCH 23, 2002

HON. MARCY KAPTUR

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 9, 2002

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Speaker, March 23, 2002 was a great day of celebration for women and girls in Afghanistan. March 23rd was the official first day back to school for children in Afghanistan. At least 1.5 million children of elementary school age attended the first day back to school across the country. Children returned to classrooms for the first time in five